Summary of project and achievements

Homeless people are often asked the same basic questions by each service they encounter. In common with other Joint Futures groups, the Homelessness Partnership has developed a shared assessment – the Integrated Assessment. This electronic database builds on the basic questions that Glasgow City Council uses to establish if an individual is legally homeless. A multi-disciplinary group worked to add questions on individuals' needs for mental and physical health services, addictions services, and to explore accommodation and support needs in more detail. This fuller assessment can be shared with other relevant services if an individual consents, so that repetition can be reduced.

The Integrated Assessment was piloted in 2003 and an evaluation is ongoing. This includes focus groups and questionnaires for both staff and service users. The evaluation will be used to modify and improve the Integrated Assessment further, as well as to infer homeless people’s needs in more detail than was previously possible.